

A LETTER from Her Royal Highness, the Princess  
**S O P H I A,**  
ELECTRESS of *Brunswic* and *Luneburg,*

To His Grace

The Archbishop of *CANTERBURY.*

With another from

**H A N N O V E R,**

Written by

**Sir R O W L A N D G W Y N N E**

To the Right Honourable

The **E A R L** of *S T A M F O R D.*

A LETTER from Her Royal Highness, the Princess **S O P H I A,** Electress of  
*Brunswic and Luneburg,* to His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury.

My Lord,

I Receiv'd Your Graces Letter: \*\*\* You have no reason to make any Excuse that you have not Writ to me more often: For I do not Judge of Peoples Friendship for me, by the good Words they give me, but I depend upon your Integrity, and what you tell me in general of the *Honest Men* of England.

I desire no further Assurance of their good Will and Affection to me, unless they think it necessary for the Good of the *Protestant Religion,* the *Publick Liberties* of *Europe,* and the *People* of *England.*

I thank God, I am in good *Health,* and Live in *Quiet* and with *Content* here, therefore I have no reason to desire to change my way of Living, on the Account

of any Personal Satisfaction, that I can propose to my self.

However, I am ready and willing to comply with what ever can be desired of me, by my Friends, in case that the *Parliament* think, that it is for the *Good* of the Kingdom, to Invite me into *England.*

But I suppose they will do this in such a manner, as will make my Coming agreeable to the *Queen,* whom I shall ever *Honour,* and Endeavour to deserve Her *Favour;* of which She hath given me many *Publick Demonstrations,* by what She hath done for me in *England* and *Scotland,* which you can judge of more particularly: And I most remember that She Order'd me to be Pray'd for in the *Churches.*

I doubt not, but Her Majesty is as much inclin'd at present, to Establish the safety of the *Three King-*

3 Nov. 1705 — 1 Jan. 1706

*doms* upon such a Foot, that *They* may be exposed to the least Hazard, that is possible; and that *She* will begin with *England*.

Mr. *How* has Acquainted me with Her Majesties Good Inclinations for my Family; which makes me think, that, perhaps, Her Majesty sees this is a proper time for Her to Express Herself in Our Favour. But whether I am right in this Point or not, my Friends in *England* can best judge.

It is but reasonable, that I should submit myself to their Opinions and Advice. And I depend most upon what your Grace shall Advise, which will ever have the greatest Weight with me.

Therefore I Write the more plainly to You, and tell You my Thoughts, that You may Communicate them to All You think fit. For they will then see that I have great Zeal for the Good of *England*, and a most sincere Respect for the *Queen*.

This is the best Proof that I can give, at present, of my Esteem for Your Grace: But I shall be glad of further Opportunities to assure you, that I am, and shall ever be most Sincerely

My Lord,

*Vostre tres Affectionnee*

Hannover Novemb.  
3d. 1705.

*a vous servir*

Sophie Electrice.

## A Letter from Sir ROWLAND GWYNNE, to the Right Honourable the Earl of STAMFORD.

My Lord,

I Did long since receive the Letter your Lordship was pleas'd to honour me with of the 9th of November, and have hitherto delay'd returning any answer to it, that I might, with more deliberation, tell you my Thoughts upon a Matter of so great Importance.

I did also expect, that some Friends would have discover'd to us the Wicked Designs you suspected to lie hid under the Advice to the *Queen*, to invite the *Electress* over into *England*; and shew'd us better Reasons, than I have yet seen why they were not for it.

But I must own, that I am hitherto at a loss in this matter, and not a little surpriz'd to see them Act so contrary to the Opinion they were formerly of.

The occasion of my last Letter to your Lordship, was to Communicate to you A Letter writ by the *Electress* to my Lord Arch-Bishop of Canterbury, in answer to one, that Her Royal Highness had receiv'd from his Grace; wherein She thought fit to declare Her Respect for the *Queens* Majesty, and the good Intentions She hath always had for the Good of *England*.

Her Royal Highness being informed from several

Persons of Credit, that Her good Inclinations for the *Queen* and the *Nation*, were Misrepresented; Some having Reported, That She did not think of *England*; Others, That She might give a Rise to Intrigues against the *Queen* and the *Publick*, if She came thither.

She thought Herself therefore oblig'd to declare to my Lord Arch-Bishop, and Others, She Write to, and also to tell the Duke of *Marboreugh*, and Earl of *Sunderland*, when they were here, That She would always most Sincerely Maintain a true Friendship with the *Queen*; and also be ready to Comply with the Desire of the *Nation*, in whatever depends upon Her, though She should hazard Her Person in passing the Seas, if They thought it Necessary towards the Establishment of the Protestant Succession, and for the Good of the Kingdom. But that, in the mean time, She Liv'd in great Quiet and Content here, (without meddling with Parties or Cabals) and left it to the *Queen* and Parliament to do whatever they should think fit.

I did therefore believe I should Please your Lordship, by sending you so desirable a Declaration, recommending you, as a fit Person to be Consulted upon it, and by entreating you to Communicate it to our Friends, being well assur'd of your Zeal for the Protestant Succession, and Friendship for me.



But I was very much surpriz'd when I found by your Answer, that you did Attribute Her Royal Highness's Declaration, which was so Innocent and Necessary in it self, to the Artifices of the *Jacobites*.

What, my Lord, would you then be pleas'd, that the Electress should not think of *England*, and that the People should believe so? Or that She would Countenance *Cabals* against the *Queen*? Or ought one to be call'd a *Jacobite* for Undeceiving the World of so Gross and Wicked a *Misrepresentation*?

The Electress hath been often desir'd to Declare, that She was willing to come into *England*, but She never thought fit to give any Answer to it (further, than that She submitted Herself and Family to the Pleasure of the *Queen* and *Parliament*) till She was press'd to Declare, *That She would not approve of the Motion to be Invited to come over.*

This was such Advice, that it gave Her just reasons to suspect, that there were some secret Designs against the *Succession*, or at least tending to Alienate the Affections of the People from Her Person: And this was a further Reason for the Declaration She made, that She might not be *Misrepresented*.

Your Lordship further tells me, *That you will not dip in any thing of this kind* (I use your own Words, that I may not mistake your meaning) *which tends, in your Lordships Opinion, to set up two Courts in England, in Opposition to each other.*

Did I propose any thing to your Lordship, but to do Justice to Truth, by making known to Our Friends Her Royal Highness's Good Intentions? And can you complain of me, for desiring a thing so Just in it self, and which every Honest Man ought to do? How then can your Lordship imagine, that *this tends to set up Two Courts in Opposition to each other*?

It is plain by the Electress's Declaration, that She hath said nothing therein, either to desire Her being Invited Over, or to hinder it; but She leaves all to the *Queen* and *Parliament*. I told you this, and you seem'd to take it ill, or at least otherwise, than I intended it.

Whoever did Represent this to your Lordship, as a thing that may disturb our present Quiet, and future Peace, must be an Enemy to Both.

Do you think, my Lord, that the Electress ought to declare, *That She would not come into England*; or that She Herself should Obstruct any Invitation, that the *Queen* and the *Parliament* may give Her? This might be taken as an Abdication of Her Right to the *Succession*. But I can assure your Lordship, that She will not Betray the Trust and Confidence the People of *England* have Reposed in Her, nor Injure Her Family.

It is true, That She is much advanced in Years, and, according to the Course of Nature, may not Live long; but the Elector and Prince Electoral, have many

Years to come, in all appearance, and have *Vertues* that deserve the Crown of *England*, when ever it shall Please God that the Reversion shall come to them.

Can you approve of such Advice? Or can you think the Authors of it Friends to Her and Her Family, or, which is more, Friends to *England*?

Must we say That those who speak against Her, are Her Friends; and those who speak for Her, are Her Enemies? This seems to me to change the Name and Nature of things.

When your Lordship considers what I have said, and reflect upon it in your own Heart, I doubt not, but you will see that you have been impos'd upon by those, who are *Jacobites* themselves in their Hearts, or something worse, if it is possible; and certainly design to Subvert the *Protestant Succession* Establish'd by Law, or so to Weaken it, that it may depend upon Accidents, or upon the Humour and Interest of particular Men. For none but such can have the Malice to Invent and to Insinuate to Others, *That the Presence of the Successor is dangerous.*

This is a thing, that hath not been heard of in other Countries, and is directly against *Common Sense*.

This is a *New Paradox*, which cannot be receiv'd in *England*, by any but those, who are very Weak, or Corrupted.

We ought to Maintain the contrary, since we know that we have Secret and Dangerous Enemies at Home, and an Irreconcilable and Powerful Enemy Abroad, who may have both the Will and Power to hinder the Passage and Establishment of the Successor, at the time when it may be most Necessary; and totally, thereby, to Subvert our Constitution, if it does not please God, once more, to preserve us, by his Manifest Providence.

You go on, my Lord, and desire, that I would Advise the Electress to take Care, that She is not impos'd upon by the *Jacobites*: But this Caution is very unnecessary; for I can assure you, That Her Royal Highness does not Consult Them in any thing, and much less will She do it in what relates to the Succession: For if She did, She must act against all Rules of Good Reason and Sense.

You may say, That they are *Jacobites* who give these Advices: But Her Royal Highness did not want any Advice to express and declare Herself, as She hath done, in a manner so suitable to Her former Conduct.

If we will suppose that this proceeds from the *Jacobites*, we must at least think that it is for their Interest.

But can you believe, my Lord, that it is in any manner, for Their Interest to persuade the *Protestant Successor* to declare Her Esteem and Affection for the *Queen* and *Nation*? And yet this is all that Her



Royal Highness hath Express'd in Her Letter to my Lord Arch-Bishop.

Such *Jacobites* must be very Silly, and not to be fear'd, who should Advise that which must Destroy all their Hopes. For the Electress's Declaration was to take off all the Groundless Suspicions, to Unite all *Honest Men*, and to Secure Our Constitution: And therefore your Lordship, and all our Friends, ought to have desir'd Her Royal Highness to explain Herself after this manner; and all that wish well to their Country ought to Thank Her for having done it.

We *Whigs* would have been formerly very glad to have seen such a Declaration from Her Royal Highness. I pray, then, my Lord, Judge what Opinion the Electress ought to have, at present, of our Steadiness and Principles, if She should receive Advice from us, so contrary to what She ought to have expected.

But I do not apply this to your Lordship: For I am perswaded, that you will be one of the first, that will quit this mistake, and condemn the strange Notions, that have been impos'd upon you by Others.

We have been Proud to say, That the House of *Hannover*, the People of *England*, and our Posterity were most Oblig'd to the *Whigs*, next to the King, for Settling the Succession upon that most Serene House: And how much should we be to be Blam'd, if we should loose this Merit, by parting with our Principles, that were so well grounded upon Honour and the Publick Good; and by Destroying the Work of our own Hands, for a Base and Uncertain Interest; or for a Blind Obedience to those, who lead others where they please, and yet are led themselves by their Passions, or imaginary Prospects, of which they may yet be Disappointed?

For if they hope to get into Favour by such Methods, they cannot be long Serviceable; nor preserve the favour they seek, for they will soon be cast off, when it is found that they have lost the Esteem and Affection of the People, by their Weak or Mercenary Conduct.

They cannot do any thing, that will better please their Enemies; for while they think to keep down the *Tories* by a Majority, and Oppose them, even in things so reasonable and just; they will raise their Reputation, instead of lessening it.

If others think fit to quit their Principles, yet I will never part with mine, for I am still of the same Opinion that the best Englishmen profess'd themselves to be of in the late Kings time; and I find no Reason for any *Honest Man* to change.

I am sorry for those who suffer themselves to be impos'd upon, but they who have Wicked Designs, may one day Repent of them. And I will be bold to say, That they must either plunge the Nation in the greatest Confusion, to make it unable to Punish them; or

that they will be answerable for the dangers, into which they are like to bring it.

Those who betray their Country, will have little satisfaction or assurance of enjoying their hoped for Advantages, which will be imbittered by their Guilt, and the perpetual Apprehensions they will have, and nothing but a timely Death can deliver them from being Punish'd as they deserve; whether the Nation continues to Flourish, and escapes the Designs laid to Enslave it, or whether it be Ruin'd by Popery and Tyranny; which may happen by their Artful Conduct, in making us neglect our own safety.

For if Tyranny and Popery prevail, many of them will suffer under the French and Jacobite Cruelties, which will not be less, than those we have read of in Queen Mary's time; and they that may think themselves the most secure among us, will be happy if they can save only their Lives.

So terrible a Revolution is, perhaps, More to be apprehended, than People think.

But if it does not happen at present, yet it may come to pass, even in the Life time of those who believe they may Contribute towards it with Impunity.

They themselves may feel those Miseries which they would carry down to Posterity, and even to their own Children if they have any; and this only to satisfy their own present Passions, at the expence of their Country, and contrary to their Duty both to God and Man.

These, my Lord, are the Sentiments and Measures that are Wicked in themselves, and that we ought to ABHOR; and not the thoughts of Endeavouring better to secure the Protestant Succession, by having the next Heir of the Crown in the Kingdom.

But your Lordship is told, That the coming of the Electress into England, will set up two Courts, that will Oppose each other.

I cannot conceive how any Body could tell you such a thing, or what Colour they could have for so base an Insinuation.

For the Electress declares, That She will be entirely United with the Queen; and that all those, who imagine She will Countenance any Intrigues against Her Majesty, will be very much deceiv'd in their Expectations. Yet, notwithstanding, it seems there are some People, who endeavour to persuade your Lordship; that even this sincere Declaration tends to raise Confusion.

Is not this in plain Terms to contradict what the Electress hath said, and to put an Affront upon this great Princess, and your Lordship, as well as upon all others who have had the Honour to Converse with Her Royal Highness, and must have done Her Justice?

The World knows that She is a Princess, whose Natural Temper is Generous, and Obliging, and Sincere, and of a Publick Spirit.

Are not you, my Lord, then oblig'd, as much as any Man



Man Living, boldly to Contradict these *Malicious Calumnies*, which you know to be *False*, to set them *Right*, who are *Misinform'd*, and to *Oppose* those, who endeavour to *Impose* upon others?

But let us suppose what you say, and allow, that (contrary to all appearance) discontented or ill Men may Impose upon the Electress's Good Nature, and Incline Her to do such things, as may displease the Queen.

What hurt can that do? Since Her Royal Highnesses Court can have no Power in *England*, and must be subject to the Queens Court, who is the Sovereign.

I will not touch upon things that have pass'd in our time, and confirm what I say.

So that it is most Absurd, to make People believe, That this pretended Opposition of the two Courts can bring us into so great dangers, as those we may avoid, by having the Protestant Heir in the Kingdom. Let us in the mean time examine these Pretences, how Absurd soever.

If we will keep the next Protestant Heir at a distance, it must be allowed to be Grounded upon two Suppositions: First, That the Queen is against the Electress's coming over; and Secondly, That Her being in *England*, during the Queens Life, is a thing ill in it self.

These two Propositions are Wicked and Criminal in themselves: For to say, That the Queen would take away, from the Presumptive Heir, the Right of coming into *England*, is to cast a great Reflection upon Her Majesty, and to create a Misunderstanding between Her Majesty, and the Person in the World, She ought to be the most United with.

But to maintain, that the Electress's being in *England* is ill in it self, one must declare himself to be of most Rediculous, or of a most Malicious Opinion. For either it must be a General Rule, that the Successor must be always kept out of the Kingdom: Or, it must be suppos'd, that People have a just Reason to entertain some Strange Notion in Prejudice of the Electress. But the General Rule is, Absolutely, not to be maintain'd. There is neither Law nor Example to justify it.

For if it were so, then Her Majesty, when Princess of *Denmark*, must have been sent out of the Kingdom, yet no Man ever pretended to Broach so Traiterous an Opinion.

And all the World knows, that the Electress may come over, when ever She pleases, without being Inclin'd.

All Wise Princes and Governments, that have had a Vision, have ever thought, that the securing of the Succession was a present and great Security to the Public Safety; without considering whether there should be any real or imaginary Disputes between the Sovereign and the next Heir.

And I also hope, that our Friends will never pretend to have any Reason to Insinuate, That they ought to have any Jealousie of the Electress, as to Her own Person.

For People must be very Malicious to say, or very ill inform'd to believe, That She is Weak or Disaffected; that She loves Divisions, or that Intriguing Persons can manage and turn Her at their pleasure.

You know, my Lord, that She is Infinitely above these Characters.

That She is Wise, and hath the greatest Tenderness in the World for Her Relations, and particularly for Her Majesty.

That She is Charitable to all Men, a Friend to *English Liberty*; and so knowing, that She cannot be easily impos'd upon, all those who are Acquainted with Her, ought to believe, that the Queen would be well pleas'd with Her agreeable Temper and Conversation.

Her Moderate Behaviour hitherto, ought to assure us of the continuance of it for the time to come.

Her quiet Temper, Her Zeal for our Preservation, and Her Esteem for the Queen, have made Her not comply with the Advices of some, who call'd themselves Whigs, which might have given Offence if She had follow'd them.

If, after all this, People can think, that Her presence in *England* can be any prejudice to the Queen or Kingdom, they must be very Ingrateful.

And it is no less Injurious to Her Character, to Misrepresent the Publishing a Letter, that was so Judiciously Writ, and so Necessary, at this time, to suppress these Groundless Reports.

This Letter which I sent to your Lordship, was only to confirm what She had said to Mr. How, who is the first of the Queens Ministers that have come to this Court, that hath owned he had Orders to declare to Her Royal Highness the Queens good Intention, further to secure the Succession in Her Royal Highness's Family.

So that no Body can say, That She hath done any thing at present, but what came from the Queen Herself.

It also appears That it is a most Skillful and Malicious Contrivance of some, to cry out, *Jacobitism*; as soon as any Body they do not like, speaks of Inviting over the Presumptive Heir.

Those who are Sincerely for so proper a Method to secure the Succession, Ought to take the Advantage of joyning in this Point with All, whoever are for it, let their Character be what it will.

For when Men mean well, they will thoroughly pursue their Point, and consider the Nature of things, as they really are in themselves.

If those whom you suspected to have had Wicked Designs, were not sincere in shewing their Zeal to In-



vite the Presumptive Heir, we ought to have taken them at their Word; and by this means they had been Punish'd as they deserv'd, by being catch'd in their own Snare.

Then the Crown might have been joyn'd with the Church, in an Excellent Address to the Queen, and both Voted out of Danger.

May the Judgment, Honour and Caudor of our Friends never be call'd in Question by our own and other Nations! For their very visible mistake, in losing this great and, perhaps, irrecoverable Opportunity, they had to oblige their Country for ever.

If the motion to invite the Successor could be of any use to the Jacobites, it must be because it was not receiv'd.

Ought a good thing to be disapprov'd because a Man, I suspect, or do not love, proposes it?

If we maintain this Position, we shall put it into the power of the Jacobites, to hinder any good Resolution we can desire to take; for it will be enough if any one we call a Jacobite, seems to agree with us.

It is a shame that we should be impos'd upon by such Weak and Malicious Notions.

In short, to Oppose the further Securing of the Protestant Succession, is to act directly for the Jacobites; and to hinder the Successors coming into England, is to Oppose the further Securing of the Succession, in my humble Opinion.

The Succession and England are in great Danger from the present Conjuncture of Affairs.

The Success of the present War, which is, as yet, very uncertain, will have the greatest Influence on this Subject.

Our Constitution does not allow of a Standing Army in time of Peace, tho' we have a Formidable Neighbour, who hath always a Will, Power and Pretences to surprize us, whether we are in Peace, or at War with him; if we are not ever upon our Guard: And he aims at no less, than to Subvert our Religion, Liberty and Property.

Under such Circumstances we ought to think of all possible means to secure our selves against a Deluge of Blood, and an Universal Confusion.

The Subversion of our Constitution is much to be apprehended; if it should so Un fortunately fall Out, that there should be a Demise; and the Successor, being Absent, should not be in a Condition to pass the Seas; while the Enemy may have time to prevent all our good Measures.

It is certain, that those, who are not sensible of the Consequences, that may attend our Negligence, and the Malice of our Enemies, on such an Occasion; must either be Corrupted, or very indifferent, as to the safety of their Country.

Therefore it is necessary, that the Presumptive Heir

should be always Establish'd in England: And it would be better Husbandry, to make an Honourable Provision for him, suitable to what was Settled in the late Reigns; than to be at the charge of a War, to recover his Right, and our own Liberties, from the dangers which they then may be in. This may save us great Sums, which we may be Oblig'd to Lay Out, to bring him Over, and yet, perhaps, we may not have the Success, we desire.

We may well remember, That the Nation Pay'd Six Hundred Thousand Pounds for the Expence of the Prince of Orange's Expedition, to Deliver us from the Danger our own Folly had brought us in to: And yet it was a Hundred to One, that he Succeeded, tho' so many Men of Quality and Interest, both in Church and State, did appear for him.

But the Expence of Money is the least Evil, that our Negligence may bring upon us: Since our Religion, Lives, Liberties, and All are at Stake.

Your Lordship further says, That the Court was threatn'd last Sessions with this Motion, and dar'd with it ever since the Parliament was chose; and that it is your Opinion, that the Electress should not give any further Countenance to it.

I use your Lordships own Words, and do assure you, That the Electress hath not meddl'd with, nor Countenanc'd any Design, otherwise then appears in Her Letter to my Lord Arch-Bishop; having had no Knowledge of what was to be propos'd in Her Favour before the Motion was made.

But since you had such early Notice of this Design I do the more wonder, that this Motion was not made by those who belong'd to the Court: Since it is manifestly for Her Majesties Interest, as well as the good of the Nation, that the Presumptive Heir should be Establish'd in England.

You could not then have had a pretence to complain, That it came from Men you did not like: And we have no reason to think that it would not have been agreeable to the Queen, if the whole Matter had laid before Her Majesty, who does every thing, that can be Advis'd for the Good of Europe, and of Her own Subjects.

'Tis a strange Notion, to think, That the Presence of the Successor can Ruin the Succession.

And it is very unlikely and not to be suppos'd, that the Successor (at least any of those we have in this Family, who have a true Respect and Love for the Queen and true Honour and Vertue in themselves) will ever be a Cause of Confusion in England, by His Presence. This must be invented by those, who ought to be much suspected as Any, by All, who are for the Protestant Succession: And it carries so much Malice and Wild Fire in it, that I am afraid to touch it any more.

As to the other Methods propos'd in the House of



ords, for the better securing of the Succession; tho' have all the deference in the World for their Lordships, as well as for the Honourable House of Commons; yet I am perswaded (with great Submission) that the Parliament will yet think such measures not sufficient for these ends, and will in time consider of others more Effectual.

We hear from England, That the Laws have been considered which relate to the Administration of the Government, in Case a Demise should happen during the Absence of the Successor; and that they are found defective.

This may well be, for neither our Ancestors nor we did ever imagine, That any good Englishman would oppose the Establishment of the Rightful and Lawful next, or Presumptive Protestant Heir in the Kingdom; but that he should be ready at Hand, to support the Constitution, whenever the Succession came to Him.

And this is more necessary at present, than ever; since there is a Pretender supported by France, who usurps the Stile and Title of King of England, to the Majesty's great Dishonour, and Danger of the Protestant Succession.

As for the Act to secure the Queens Person and Government, &c. the Powers which the Lords Justices are to have, for the time being, must be very great; and may be liable to bring Dangers, if not Ruin to the Kingdom, if they shall happen to fall into the hands of ill Men.

The Heir being kept at a distance will not be able in time of Danger and Confusion, to distinguish his friends from his Enemies; since he will not be acquainted with the Nobility and Gentry, whom he would have known if he had been in the Kingdom: and therefore will be under great difficulties how to name proper Persons, to joyn with the Seven Lords Justices.

Besides, it is very doubtful how far his Orders and Choice will be Respected; for many pretences and measures may be put in practice by a Powerful skill to elude them.

Who can say what Men will be in the great Employments, when a Demise may happen?

Those we think the best Friends to the Succession may dye before that time comes; and those whom we call Jacobites, or others, who are such in their Hearts without being known, may yet come into those Employments.

The Power of the Nation both by Sea and Land, and even the Treasure, may be in ill Hands; and if this happens, they may dispose of the Crown and Succession as they please.

One single Person may Usurp the Power of all the Lords Justices and Council, as it did fall out in Edward the 6th time, by the Subtlety of the Duke of

Northumberland, to the great Prejudice of your Lordships Family.

And this hath often happen'd, both in England and other Countries, tho' Criminals have been frequently Punish'd.

But such Circumstances may be more Dangerous in England, at present, than People thought them in former Ages.

The Happy Criminals are always Appauded, far from being Punish'd.

Such a single Person, at such a Conjuncture, may choose to Play the Game of Cromwell, or that of Monk for the False, or for the True Heir.

And the time may come, in which the Pretender, with the great Foreign Power, and the Intrigues within the Kingdom, may be able to gain more People than the Successor, being Absent and Destitute of the necessary Supports. Especially after the Dissolution of the Great Alliance, which may justly be Apprehended in time of Peace; as it did happen after the Treaties of Nimmeguen and Ryswick, and as it is very like to fall out again after this War; if more effectual Measures are not taken in the Kingdom as well as Abroad. And if the Allies do not find their Security in our Constitution and in the Succession.

The Lords have made an Excellent Address to the Queen, to Maintain a Good Intelligence with the Allies, and particularly with the States-General.

But it is to be wish'd that this Good Intelligence may be so Extended, and that such Measures may be taken, that we may be always certain of their Assistance to secure the Protestant Succession.

England and the States are the great Support of the Protestant Religion and Interest, and of the Liberties of Europe. 'Tis undoubtedly the Interest and Safety of Both, always to Maintain a Good Correspondence and True Friendship. Therefore the Wise and Honest Ministers on both Sides will easily find the most proper Means to prevent any Quarrel, and will preserve a perfect Union; which must be Grounded upon the Obligation and Necessity of each others Mutual Defence.

England may, and ought to depend upon its own Wisdom and Force, to Defend it self; being Secur'd and Quiet at Home.

And we have had hitherto the good Fortune to preserve our Libereies, when most other Nations have lost theirs.

But late Experience has shewn us how near we may come to Slavery by our Negligence. And also, how necessary it may then be to recur to, and how Dangerous to relie upon Foreign Aid; as to our own Safety.

We can be in no Danger under Her Majesty's Reign and Wise Conduct.

But we are to Apprehend and Prevent, to the ut



most of our Power, any ill Accidents, that may befall us, when it may please God to take our Good Queen from us.

Who knows what Men or Parties may rise up at Home and Abroad? We ought, therefore, like Honest and Wise Men, to set things upon the best and surest Foundations. At least we ought not to Weaken the Succession by neglecting the proper means for its Security.

'Tis true, that the Invitation of the Presumptive Heir hath no Negative put upon it: But it is also true, that if it had pleas'd our Friends in Parliament at this time, when they were a Majority, to Advise Her Majesty to it, in Concurrence with others; that this would have better secured the Protestant Succession, and our Constitution, then all the Laws the Nation can make.

I Pray, my Lord, what will our Acts of Parliament, our Oaths, the Proclamation of the Successor, and even our Lords Justices signifie: if the Successor is not certain of passing the Sea, and of being Possess'd of the Fleet, the Troops, the Treasure, the Garrisons, the Sea-Ports, the Tower, and City of London?

The World will wonder at, and we shall deplore our fatal Blindness; if we are capable of being amus'd by maginary Securies, and Neglect, at this time a Day, what is really Necessary for our Safety.

Laws are no more then Cobwebs against Power and Force.

The History of England doth furnish us with many Examples, which shew that the next Heirs to the Crown, have been often excluded from the Succession to it, by their being Absent at the time of the Demise.

We have an Instance now before us in Spain, which hath cost us much Blood and Treasure, and is like to cost us much more; besides, what England doth, and may suffer by the loss of that Trade, which was next to that of our West-Indies, the most Profitable to us.

For if King Charles had been in Spain before the Death of the late King, it might in all probability have prevented this General War; and the French King would never have attempted the Conquest of Spain, if he had not had Footing there before; nor the Spanish Ministers have dared to do what they did, if the Arch-Duke had been present at Madrid.

Therefore to hinder the next Heir's coming into England, will be a very great Reflection upon us: For it must tend to the Destruction of, or at least, very much hazard our Religion and Liberties.

And so we ought to consider of our Dangers in due time; since it may so happen, That it may not be in our Power to secure the coming over of the Suc-

cessor: And I will only mention what has been said in England, that we are not always sure of a Protestant Wind.

A thousand other Accidents may befall us if we trust to the last Extreimity.

Therefore we ought now to take right measures: That the Successor may be always Established, and secure to possess himself of the Power, whenever it shall please God to afflict us with a Demise: And that we may be as little exposed as is possible, either to Chance or Treachery.

The Queen seems to be of this Opinion, and all Honest Men ought, and will contritute all they can to make it agreeable and easie to Her Majesty.

The Electress and the other Princes of this Family do always Praise and Admire the Care that the Queen takes of the Interest of Europe against our common Enemy; and pray for Her Majesties long Life and Happiness.

God be thank'd the Queen is in good Health, but alas! She is Mortal, and must our safety depend upon an Accident, that must befall the best of Mankind?

It is true that the Electress hath many Years more than Her Majesty, and that the Queen is in the Vigour of Her Age; and therefore, that the Electress is not like to survive Her Majesty; but our Interest and Safety consists in making such a provision once for all, whether the Electress lives or not, that the next Heir may be always present, or in a condition to be so without which, in my Humble Opinion, We cannot be safe, otherwise, than by an extraordinary Providence.

My Lord Haversham hath always shewed himself so true a Friend to this Family, and the Constitution of England; that I thought no Man could be more proper to be advis'd with upon the Electress's Letter.

I ask your Lordships Pardon for troubling you with so long a Letter; but I thought my self oblig'd in Duty to my Country, and Friendship to you, to speak plainly upon this Question, which contains the Happiness or Misery of England: And therefore I hope that all Wise and Honest Men will take care how they decide it. I am

My Lord,

Your Lordships most Obedient

And most Humble Servant,

R. Gwynne

Hannover Jan.

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